



MARION COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TERRY R. CURRY, PROSECUTOR

251 E. OHIO ST., SUITE 160

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

PHONE (317) 327-3522 • FAX (317) 327-3531

Media Release:

December 14, 2016

Contacts:

Peg McLeish (317) 327-5543; peg.mcleish@indy.gov

Michael Leffler (317) 327-5516; michael.leffler@indy.gov

Daycare workers charged with neglect for toddler injured at facility

Inadequate care and supervision contributed to injuries allegedly incurred from older child

(Indianapolis, Ind.) Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry announced today that the director and employee of an eastside daycare have been criminally charged for their failure to properly supervise children at the facility. The charges are a result of injuries sustained by a one-year-old child that were believed to have been inflicted by an older child while in the care of the facility. Daycare director Ashley James and employee Brandi Bonner have each been charged with Neglect Resulting in Bodily Injury (Level 5 Felony).

According to the probable cause affidavit, the one-year-old child was found with multiple injuries sustained at Live, Laugh, Love and Learn daycare on October 1. It is believed an unrelated 11-year-old child who attends the daycare intentionally injured the one-year-old victim while the children were under Bonner's care. Bonner is accused of not providing adequate and continuous care to the one-year-old child as the alleged abuse occurred.

Investigators believe James became aware of the child's injuries and knowingly left Bonner responsible for the care of eight children as the only employee in the facility at the time of the alleged incident. She is charged for failing to comply with Indiana law mandating child to staff ratios, resulting in the injury to the toddler.

The cases have been assigned to Criminal Court 2. An initial hearing for Bonner is scheduled for December 15 at 9:00 a.m. An initial hearing for James is scheduled for December 15 at 1:00 p.m.

A charge of a crime is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

NOTE: *The charging documents and probable cause affidavit filed in these cases can be downloaded at:*

https://www.dropbox.com/s/bufyrf5bo55xsgt/Ashley%20James_Brandi%20Bonner.pdf?dl=0